



03500.016946.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: A. Khokhar
TACHIO ONO)
: Group Art Unit: 2622
Application No.: 10/500,803)
:
§ 371(c) Date: July 7, 2004)
:
Intl. Appl. No.: PCT/JP03/00518)
:
Intl. Filing Date: January 22, 2003)
:
For: STORAGE APPARATUS AND)
CONTROL METHOD : February 19, 2008

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) having been filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the Office Action dated October 16, 2007, the period for response having been extended to Tuesday, February 16, 2008 (day after President's Day Holiday) by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time with fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

February 19, 2008

(Date of Deposit)

Michael J. Guzniczak (Reg. No. 59,820)

(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

Signature

February 19, 2008

Date of Signature